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I hereby certify that the following correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "First Class Mail" with proper postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

- 1) Response and Amendment (15 pages total)
- 2) Petition for Extension of Time
- 3) Exhibit A – A Gene Encoding an RNase D Exonuclease-Like Protein is Required for Posttranscriptional Silencing in *Arabidopsis*
- 4) Sequence Listing (28 pages total)
- 5) Third Information Disclosure Statement
- 6) Form PTO-1449
- 7) References AN1, AO1, AP1, AQ1, and AR1
- 8) Credit Card Payment Form (2 total)
- 9) Return Postcard

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Mary Kafunda
Name

Mary Kafunda
Signature

May 21, 2003
Date